

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

AMANDA BRYANT, a Texas resident;)	CIVIL ACTION NO.: 4:19-CV-01708
MICHAEL WALKER, a Texas resident, and)	
MICHAEL WALKER, doing business as)	FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION
WALKER SWIM LESSONS, a sole)	COMPLAINT FOR:
proprietorship in Texas; HARN LEE, a)	
Texas resident; NANCY NGUYEN, doing)	1. TRESPASS;
business as SILVER'S ANDY NAILS, a sole)	2. NEGLIGENCE;
proprietorship in Texas; JEFFREY)	3. NUISANCE.
AARON, a Texas Resident; VERONICA)	
CANTU, a Texas Resident; and)	JURY DEMANDED
STEPHANIE OCHOA, a Texas resident;)	
all on behalf of themselves individually and)	JUDGE NANCY F. ATLAS
all others similarly situated;)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
INTERCONTINENTAL TERMINALS)	
COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware corporation;)	
and MITSUI & CO. (U.S.A.), INC., a New)	
York Corporation;)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	

Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves, and on behalf of all others similarly situated in the Putative Class, allege upon information and belief:

NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is a class action on behalf of individuals whose quality of life and use and enjoyment of their property has been damaged by the toxic chemicals released during an emissions event and fire at a petrochemical terminal facility. The petrochemical terminal facility was owned

and operated by Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC (“ITC”) and Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. The petrochemical terminal facility is located in Deer Park, Texas (“ITC Facility”).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. Original jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C.A. §§1331 (Federal Question) and 1332(d)(2) (Class Action). Diversity exists between the named Plaintiffs of this class action, each of whom are citizens of the State of Texas, and Defendants. Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC, is incorporated in Delaware. Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. is headquartered in New York. Upon information and belief, the Plaintiffs allege the defendants are doing business in the Southern District of Texas with sufficient contacts to confer personal jurisdiction. The proposed Class exceeds 100 persons. The amount in controversy exceeds the required \$5,000,000.00.

3. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a)(2) because a substantial portion of the events and omissions giving rise to Plaintiffs’ claims occurred in the Southern District of Texas where the ITC Facility is located.

THE PARTIES

The Plaintiffs

4. Plaintiff Amanda Bryant is above the age of majority and is a resident of Deer Park, TX. She lives on property she owns approximately 5.1 miles from the ITC Facility. Her children attend school in the Deer Park Independent School District that was forced to cancel classes due to the ITC fire in Deer Park.

5. Plaintiff Michael Walker is above the age of majority, and is a resident of Deer Park, TX. He lives on property he owns approximately 5.9 miles from the ITC Facility. His child attends school in the Deer Park Independent School District that was forced to cancel classes due

to the ITC fire in Deer Park. Plaintiff Michael Walker does business as Walker Swim Lessons, which is located in Deer Park, TX, approximately 5.9 miles from the ITC Facility.

6. Plaintiff Harn Lee is above the age of majority, and is a resident of Deer Park, TX. She lives on property she owns approximately 4.3 miles from the ITC Facility. Her child attends school in the LaPorte Independent School District that was forced to cancel classes due to the ITC fire in Deer Park.

7. Plaintiff Nancy Nguyen is above the age of majority, and is doing business as Silver's Andy Nails located in Deer Park, TX, approximately 6.3 miles from the ITC Facility.

8. Plaintiff Jeffrey Aaron is above the age of majority, and is a resident of Channelview, TX. He works across the street from the ITC Facility. His three children attend school in the Channelview Independent School District that was forced to cancel classes due to the ITC fire in Deer Park.

9. Plaintiff Veronica Cantu is above the age of majority, and is a resident of Deer Park, TX. Her child attends school in the Deer Park Independent School District that was forced to cancel classes due to the ITC fire in Deer Park.

10. Plaintiff Stephanie Ochoa is above the age of majority, and is a resident of Pasadena, TX. She lives in property she rents approximately 7.7 miles from the ITC Facility. She has a child that attends the Deer Park Independent School District that was forced to cancel classes due to the ITC fire in Deer Park.

The Defendants

11. Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in La Porte, Texas. It is the owner, operator and permittee of the ITC Facility, which is located at 1943 Independence Parkway South, La Porte, Texas. It is

alleged on information and belief, that Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC is a wholly owned operating subsidiary of Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc.

12. Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. is a New York Corporation with its principal place of business in New York, New York. Upon information and belief, it is the parent company of Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC.

Piercing Corporate Veil

13. Plaintiffs allege that Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc., is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a shareholder of Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC, and/or subscribers to stock therein. There exists, and at all times herein mentioned existed, a unity of interest between Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. and Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC, such that any individuality and separateness between the Defendant Shareholders and Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC, have ceased, and are the alter ego of Defendant Shareholders as follows:

(a) Plaintiffs allege that Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC, at all times herein mentioned, had insufficient capital, assets, stock or stockholders. Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC, was conceived, intended, and used by defendant shareholder(s) as a device to avoid individual liability and for the purpose of substituting an inadequately capitalized corporation in the place of Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc.

(b) Plaintiffs allege that Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC is, and at all times herein mentioned, was inadequately capitalized compared with the business to be done by Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC and the risks of loss attendant thereto.

(c) Plaintiffs allege that Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC is and, at all times herein mentioned, was the alter ego of Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. and at all times herein mentioned existed, a unity of ownership such that any separateness has ceased to exist.

(d) Plaintiffs allege that Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a mere shell, instrumentality and conduit through which Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. carried on its business in the name of Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC, exercising complete control and dominance of such businesses to such an extent that any individuality or separateness of Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC and Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. does not now, and at any time herein mentioned did not, exist.

(e) Plaintiffs allege that Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC is, and at all times herein mentioned was, controlled, dominated, and operated by Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. as their individual business and alter ego, in that the activities and business of Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC were carried out without following the required corporate formalities.

(f) Plaintiffs allege that adherence to the fiction of separate existence of Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC as an entity distinct from Defendant Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. would permit abuse of the corporate privilege and produce an inequitable result in that Defendant Shareholders guaranteed certain of Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC obligations, thereby enabling Defendant

Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC to remain in active business, without adequate financing or insurance, which invited the public generally to rely upon Defendant Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

14. Plaintiffs bring this claim on behalf of the following Class, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a), 23(b)(2), 23(b)(3) and 23(c)(4).

15. The Class consists of:

- a. the individuals, businesses, and governmental entities in Deer Park, Texas subject to the order to Shelter In Place due the ITC fire; and
- b. parents of students (below the age of majority) and students (above the age of majority) enrolled in schools, colleges and independent school districts that cancelled classes due to the ITC fire.

16. The identities of all the class members are readily obtainable from governmental and school records.

17. Excluded from the Plaintiff Class are the Defendants and all officers, members, partners, managers, directors and employees of the Defendants and their respective immediate families, and legal counsel for all parties to this action, and all members of their immediate families.

18. This action has been brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure because there is a well-defined community interest in the litigation:

a. **Numerosity**: The Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and on that basis allege, that the Plaintiff Class defined above is so numerous that joinder of all members would be impractical.

b. **Commonality**: There are questions of law and fact common to the Plaintiff Class that predominate over any issues involving only individual class members. The common issues of law and fact, include, but are not limited to: (1) whether Defendants are liable for damages to the Class for releasing toxic chemicals and/or for their negligent failure to plan and prepare for an emergency involving the release of toxic chemicals; (2) whether Defendants are liable for trespass, negligence and nuisance; (3) the type and scope of damages caused by Defendants' conduct; and (4) the extent to which the properties in the class area suffered a diminution in value as a result of the ITC fire. These and other common issues of law and fact relate to and affect the rights of Plaintiffs and Class Members.

c. **Typicality**: The Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the Class Members because they reside in, or do business in Deer Park, TX and were subject to the Shelter In Place Order and/or they were affected by the closure of the schools in and around the area of the ITC Facility. The claims arise out of the Defendants' common uniform course of conduct complained of herein.

d. **Adequacy**: The Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Plaintiff Class defined in this complaint. The Plaintiffs have retained counsel with experience in handling environmental lawsuits, complex legal issues, and class actions. Neither the Plaintiffs nor their attorneys have any interests, which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

19. Certification of a class under Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is also appropriate in that the questions of law and fact common to members of the Plaintiff Class predominate over any questions affecting an individual member, and a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy:

a. **Predominance**: The questions of law or fact common to class members predominate over any questions affecting only individual members. The relative importance of the claims and defenses of the parties and the nature of the evidence that will be presented far outweigh any individual issues.

b. **Superiority**: A class action is superior to the other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy because individual joinder of all members would be impracticable. Class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum efficiently and without unnecessary duplication of effort and expense that individual actions would engender.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

20. On Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 10:30 AM, at the ITC Facility, a leak occurred in the manifold associated with tank 80-8, containing the volatile petroleum product naphtha. The release ignited and the fire quickly spread to other adjacent tanks. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that but for negligence on the part of ITC in the construction, maintenance or operation of, or response to, the naphtha tank fire, the event would not have occurred.

21. On Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 11:21 AM, the City of Deer Park issued a Shelter In Place Order due to the chemical tank fire at the ITC Facility. Throughout the day, Deer Park's Office of Emergency Management expanded the Shelter In Place Order to include all of Deer Park city limits.

22. The City of Deer Park's Shelter In Place Order mandated:

1. GO INSIDE IMMEDIATELY

Seek the nearest enclosed structure, whether it's a house, business, garage or vehicle. If you know of any unattended child in your neighborhood, call them and tell them to remain in doors. Keep any pets inside also Gather emergency supplies like a portable radio, flashlight and extra batteries.

2. CLOSE UP

Close all doors, windows, and other sources of outside air. Turn off air conditioning or heating systems and close the fireplace damper to keep chemical vapors from entering. Ceiling fans or rotary fans inside the building can be safely used to keep cool.

Cover any gaps, holes, or cracks with wet towels or sheets to prevent vapors from entering your home. If you have trouble breathing, contact 9-1-1 and cover your nose and mouth with a damp washcloth, then take slow, shallow breaths and try to stay calm.

3. STAY INFORMED

Stay off the telephone. City officials may try to telephone your home or business using the city's computerized telephone notification system. Do not call police, fire or 9-1-1 unless you are reporting an emergency at your location. Overloaded phone circuits may keep actual emergency calls from getting through.

23. On Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 1:20 PM, the City of Deer Park announced that State Highway 225 was closed to all traffic from Beltway 8 to Independence Parkway.

24. On Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 1:25 PM, the City of Deer Park posted on Facebook that the chemical tank fire remained uncontrolled as of 1:00 PM. At that time, the City of Deer Park extended the Shelter in Place Order:

“Residents are asked to remain sheltered and avoid going outdoors if at all possible. Community air monitoring is being conducted and additional updates will be provided as they become available.”

25. On Monday, March 18, 2019 at 5:30 AM, the City of Deer Park lifted the Shelter In Place Order and re-opened State Highway 225. However, portions of Independence Parkway were remained closed.

26. On Monday, March 18, 2019, The Deer Park and La Porte Independent School Districts cancelled all classes due to the hazards posed by the ITC fire.

27. On Monday, March 18, 2019 at 12:28 PM, the City of Deer Park, through its Facebook page, reported that the tanks that were burning contained naphtha, xylene, GBS (gas blend stock) and lubricant oil.

a. **Naphtha**: Is a flammable liquid hydrocarbon mixture. Mixtures labeled naphtha have been produced from natural gas condensates, petroleum distillates, and the distillation of coal tar and peat. Petroleum naphtha is an intermediate hydrocarbon liquid stream derived from refining crude oil. It is primarily used to dilute heavy oil to make it easy to move through pipelines, to make high-octane gasoline, to make lighter fluid and to clean metal. Thus, it is used as a fuel, to make fuel and as a solvent.

b. **Xylene**: Is any one of three isomers of dimethylbenzene, or a combination thereof. With the formula $(CH_3)_2C_6H_4$, each of the three compounds has a central benzene ring with two methyl groups attached at substituents. It is primarily used as a solvent (a liquid that can dissolve other substances) in the printing, rubber, and leather industries. Along with other solvents, xylene is also widely used as a cleaning agent, a thinner for paint and varnishes.

c. **GBS (gas blend stock)**: is a complex hydrocarbon used to produce fuel, particularly gasoline. It is a complex mixture of hydrocarbons consisting of paraffins, cycloparaffins, aromatic and olefinic hydrocarbons having molecular chains ranging in length from four to ten carbons. It is generally an intermediate product that is used to produce a variety of gasolines, which are used as fuel for internal combustion engines.

d. **Lubricant Oils**: are an additive blend of refined oil. It is a complex mixture of low and high molecular weight hydrocarbons, lubrication additives, and various organic and inorganic compounds. It often has an amber color and petroleum odor. It can be used

in combination with other products. It is used for lubricating hydraulic systems and engines.

28. On Monday, March 18, 2019 at 5:18 PM, the City of Deer Park stated that six tanks remained on fire. The Deer Park Independent School District and La Porte Independent School District decided to reopen for school on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

29. On Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 2:30 AM, ITC announced that a raging fire at the ITC Facility spread to two more massive tanks after the firefighting water pumps stopped working for six hours.

30. On Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 12:17 PM, the City of Deer Park provided an update. It reported that an ITC representative at a press conference stated that six tanks (80-2, 80-3, 80-5, 80-6, 80-8 and 80-11) remained on fire, that tanks (80-9 and 80-11) had collapsed during the firefighting process and that two more tanks (80-14 and 80-15) were now on fire. "Fire had intensified overnight on Monday [March 18] due to a temporary loss of water pressure and water resources between the hours of 4PM and 10PM. The loss of water pressure was due to the malfunction of two fireboat pumps that were providing water to firefighters operating on scene."

31. One of these two tanks (80-14 and 80-11) contained toluene, a volatile liquid used to make nail polish remover and paint thinner.

32. On Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7:40 PM, the City of Deer Park noted an update from ITC. Four tanks (80-2, 80-3, 80-5 and 80-6) remained on fire Tuesday afternoon. Three of these tanks contained a gas blend and tank (80-5) contained xylene.

33. On Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 10:15 PM, the City of Deer Park reported a statement from ITC, which stated that tanks (80-2, 80-3, 80-5 and 80-14) were burning.

34. On Wednesday, March 20, 2019, ITC issued a press release informing the public that the fire had been extinguished at 3:00 AM.

35. A few hours later, Alice Richardson, ITC Public Information Officer, said, “The cause of the fire is still unknown, but as soon as it is safe to get our personnel in the tank farm, we will begin a root cause investigation.”

36. On Wednesday, March 20, 2019, Deer Park ISD, La Porte ISD, Sheldon ISD, Channelview ISD and Galena Park ISD cancelled classes due to the hazards of the ITC fire.

37. On Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 1:40 PM, the City of Deer Park stated that air monitoring continued. Air monitoring reports indicated that Shell Deer Park experienced elevated levels of benzene in the morning.

38. On March 20, 2019 at 7:00 PM, the City of Deer Park received confirmation from ITC that a flare-up of the fire had occurred at the ITC Facility.

39. On Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 4:49 AM, Shelter In Place Orders were again issued by the cities of Deer Park and Galena Park after elevated levels of benzene and other volatile organic compounds were detected within the city limits of both cities. A message from ITC informed Deer Park that the affected area is south of Tidal Road, east of Beltway 8, west of Underwood Road and north of Pasadena Boulevard.

40. On Thursday, March 21, 2019, by 5:45 AM, the City of Deer Park expanded its closure of State Highway 225 to Highway 146 due to the elevated levels of benzene.

41. On Thursday, March 21, 2019, by 5:45 AM, a spokesperson for ITC represented that the benzene levels: “are below those that represent an immediate risk.” However, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“TCEQ”) issued a statement that: “High levels of benzene detected at ITC fire site.” The TCEQ wrote: “One-hour levels of benzene in Deer Park were

measured at a maximum of 190.68 parts per billion at 4 a.m., dropping to 48.03 ppb at 5 a.m. and 8.12 ppb at 6 a.m. Short-term exposure to one-hour benzene concentrations above 180 ppb can be a cause for health concern.”

42. Due to these concerns of exposure to benzene, the City of Pasadena required all its employees living in nearby Deer Park to abide by the Shelter In Place Order.

43. On Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 7:40 AM, the City of Deer Park announced that the Deer Park Police Department had placed barricades blocking all northbound traffic from the Pasadena Boulevard intersections, including Center Street, East Boulevard, Georgia, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Luella. Similarly, northbound traffic from Spencer Highway was blocked at intersections that included East Boulevard, East Meadows, Luella, College Park, Academy, Center Street, Durant and Glenwood. A barricade was also placed at the intersection of Pasadena Boulevard and Louisiana to prevent eastbound traffic on Pasadena and northbound traffic on Louisiana. Furthermore, barricades were erected on Old Underwood at X Street and on South Battleground/Independence Parkway. State Highway 225 was to remain closed between Beltway 8 and Highway 146.

44. On Thursday, March 21, 2019, in addition to the Shelter In Place Orders being issued by Deer Park and Galena Park, the following school districts announced that they would be closed because of environmental concerns: Channelview ISD, Pasadena ISD, Deer Park ISD, La Porte ISD, Sheldon ISD, Galena Park ISD and Clear Horizons Early College High School (a Clear Creek ISD school).

45. Other local educational institutions also closed, including all campuses and district offices for San Jacinto College, YES Prep East End and Southeast campuses, St. Pius V Catholic School, Texas Chiropractic College and all buildings and institutions on KIPP's Northeast Campus.

46. On Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 11:40 AM, The City of Deer Park lifted the Shelter In Place Order because it believed benzene levels in the air had fallen below actionable limits.

47. On Thursday, March 21, later that day, Deer Park ISD and La Porte ISD cancelled classes for Friday, March 22, 2019 even though the City of Deer Park had lifted the Shelter In Place Order.

48. On Friday, March 22, 2019, at 12:15 PM, the dike wall containing the product released during the fire partially collapsed. ITC sent a Shelter In Place Notification to its industrial neighbors and the San Jacinto Texas State Historic Site.

49. On Friday, March 22, 2019, at approximately 2:00 PM, the United States Coast Guard closed the Houston Ship Channel between Dow (Tucker Bayou) and the San Jacinto Monument to Crystal Bay due to the breach of the tank farm secondary containment dike wall on the north side near tank (80-7).

50. On Friday, March 22, 2019, at 3:45 PM, a flare up occurred at the ITC Facility. ITC later informed the City of Deer Park that multiple tanks in the west side of the Deer Park facility containment area had reignited. The fire had spewed thick, acrid smoke in a black plume into the air, which was visible from at least as far as Galveston Ferry 35 miles from the terminal. Some of the chemicals leaked into the Houston Ship Channel, which links the Gulf of Mexico to Houston. This had caused the US Coast Guard to close portions of the Houston Ship Channel.

51. The fire caused the release of air contaminants, including, but not limited to, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, benzene, NO_x, toluene and xylene.

a. **PM 10**: is particulate matter 10 micrometers or less in diameter. For comparison, a human hair is about 100 micrometers.

b. **PM 2.5**: is a particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or less in diameter. These are generally defined as fine particles.

c. **Benzene**: is an organic chemical compound with the formula C₆H₆. It is composed of six carbon atoms in a ring with one hydrogen atom attached to each, making it a hydrocarbon. It is a natural constituent of crude oil and is one of the elementary petrochemicals. Benzene is colorless, with a sweet smell that causes the aroma common to gas stations. It is highly flammable. It is used as a precursor to manufacture more complex chemicals like ethylbenzene and cumene. It has been limited to being less than 1% of gasoline because it is a known human carcinogen.

d. **Tolulene**: is an aromatic hydrocarbon. It is a derivative of benzene, consisting of a CH₃ group attached to a phenyl group. The chemical formula for toluene is C₇H₈. It is a colorless liquid that has a smell associated with paint thinners. It is used to make explosives, but its most common uses are as a solvent, in particular paint thinner, and as an octane booster in various types of gasolines.

e. **NOX**: is a chemical compound named nitrous oxide. It is commonly known as nitrous or laughing gas. It is made from two nitrogen atoms and two carbon atoms and has the chemical formula N₂O. At room temperature, it is a colorless, non-flammable gas. However, at elevated temperatures, it is a powerful oxidizer. Its most common uses include

as an anesthetic to relieve pain in surgery and dentistry and as an oxidizer in rocket propellants and auto racing to increase the power output of engines.

52. On Friday, March 22, 2019, at 4:20 PM, Harris County Precinct 8 shut down the Beltway 8 Ship Channel Bridge.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Trespass to Real Property Against Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC

And Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc.)

53. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference as though fully set forth herein the preceding paragraphs 1 through 52.

54. Plaintiffs owned, or had a legal right, to possess real property.

55. Defendants are liable for trespass as a result of migration or transport of an air contaminant or contaminants, which was other than just an odor, the result of which caused actual and substantial damages to the Plaintiffs, as described in Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code 75.002(h).

56. By releasing toxic chemicals, including the black ash, residue and other chemicals into the air and/or water, Defendants entered Plaintiffs' land, and the entry was physical, intentional and voluntary.

57. The toxic chemicals released by Defendants from the ITC facility were not produced by a natural process.

58. Defendants' trespass caused injury to Plaintiffs' right of possession and constituted a trespass and nuisance.

59. Defendants' actions constituted grossly negligent, outrageous, malicious, or otherwise morally culpable conduct, warranting exemplary or punitive damages sufficient to deter such conduct in the future.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Negligence Against Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC

And Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc.)

60. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference as though fully set forth herein the preceding paragraphs 1 through 59.

61. Defendants owed a duty to exercise ordinary care, meaning that degree of care that would be used by any chemical/petrochemical/waste products storage company of ordinary prudence under the same or similar circumstances.

62. Defendants negligently breached the duty owed to Plaintiffs and the Class in one or more of the following ways:

- a. In failing to properly design, engineer, construct, maintain, inspect and/or operate the ITC facility;
- b. In failing to properly store chemicals/petrochemicals/waste products;
- c. In failing to have adequate emergency planning, response and other procedures in place to warn the public of and to protect the safety and welfare of the community in the event of a catastrophe;
- d. In failing to provide the public and first responders accurate information on the risks of the fire;
- e. In failing to provide adequate warning.

63. Defendants' negligence directly and proximately caused damage to Plaintiffs and the Class, causing property damage, annoyance, discomfort and inconvenience, and creating a trespass and nuisance.

64. Defendants' actions constituted grossly negligent, outrageous, malicious, or otherwise morally culpable conduct, warranting exemplary or punitive damages sufficient to deter such conduct in the future.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Nuisance Against Intercontinental Terminals Company, LLC

And Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc.)

65. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference as though fully set forth herein the preceding paragraphs 1 through 64.

66. The Plaintiffs are persons of ordinary sensibilities that were attempting to use and enjoy land at the time of the ITC fire.

67. The Defendants' conduct related to the ITC fire created a condition that substantially interfered with the Plaintiffs' use and enjoyment of land.

68. The Defendants' substantial interference caused unreasonable discomfort and/or annoyance to the Plaintiffs.

69. The Defendants' conduct related to the ITC fire was negligent, intentional, unreasonable, or abnormal and out of place of its surroundings.

70. Plaintiffs did not consent to Defendants' conduct related to the ITC fire.

71. The Defendants' conduct related to the ITC fire constituted a nuisance.

72. Defendants' actions related to the ITC fire constituted grossly negligent, outrageous, malicious, or otherwise morally culpable conduct, warranting exemplary or punitive damages sufficient to deter such conduct in the future.

JURY DEMAND

73. Plaintiffs hereby demand trial by jury on all Causes of Action in which it is permitted.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully pray for a Jury Trial and for the following relief:

1. An Order certifying this action to proceed as a class action, authorizing Plaintiffs to represent the interests of the Class as appropriate and appointing undersigned counsel to represent the Class;
2. An award of damages or mechanism for recovery to compensate the Class for the harm caused;
3. An award of exemplary or punitive damages to the Class to deter similar conduct by the Defendants in the future;
4. Prejudgment and post-judgment interest on all sums allowed by law;
Damages for lost revenues and wages;
5. An Order establishing such administrative procedures as are reasonable to effectuate the relief granted Plaintiffs and the Class Members;
6. That the Court order Defendants to pay for the costs of this proceeding, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, including, but not limited to, costs of Class Notice and administration; and

7. Such other relief as the Court or Jury may deem appropriate.

DATED: May 24, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

UNDERWOOD LAW OFFICE, INC.

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Attorney in charge.

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